AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended)   A mail server comprising:

a mailbox which stores received electronic mail by corresponding each of the electronic mail and an electronic mail address of a destination;

means for transmitting electronic mail of a new mail notification to the electronic mail address of the destination of a received electronic mail by a push method protocol; and

means for distributing the electronic mail by a pull method protocol in accordance with a distribution request from the electronic mail address of the destination of the electronic mail stored in the mailbox,

wherein the means for transmitting determines whether or not to transmit the electronic mail of the new mail notification by the push method protocol in accordance with a type of the received electronic mail, and

wherein the means for transmitting determines not to transmit the electronic mail of the new mail notification by the push method protocol when the received electronic mail is a reception confirmation mail of electronic mail transmitted previously.

Claim 2 (Original) The mail server according to claim 1, wherein the push method protocol is a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP).

Claim 3 (Original) The mail server according to claim 1, wherein the pull method protocol is a Post Office Protocol (POP).

Claim 4 (Original) The mail server according to claim 1, wherein when the electronic mail address of the destination of the received electronic mail is an electronic mail address designated in advance, the means for transmitting transmits electronic mall of a new mail notification by the push method protocol.

Claim 5 (Original) The mail server according to claim 4, further comprising:

means for registering whether or not to carry out the new mail notification to each of a plurality of electronic mail addresses;

wherein the means for transmitting determines whether or not to carry out a new mail notification in accordance with registered contents of the means for registering.

Claim 6 (Original) The mail server according to claim 4, wherein the push method protocol is a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP).

Claims 7-10 (Cancelled).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) A mail server comprising:

a mailbox which stores received electronic mail by corresponding each of the electronic mail and an electronic mail address of a destination;

means for transmitting electronic mail of a new mail notification to the electronic mail address of the destination of a received electronic mail by a push method protocol; and

means for distributing the electronic mail by a pull method protocol in accordance with a distribution request from the electronic mail address of the destination of the electronic mail stored in the mailbox,

wherein the means for transmitting transmits the electronic mail of the new mail notification by the push method protocol when the type of the received electronic mail is an electronic mail of a type designated in advance, and

wherein the means for transmitting determines not to transmit the electronic mail of the new mail notification by the push method protocol when the received electronic mail is an electronic mail not attached with an attached file.

Claim 12 (Original) The mail server according to claim 11, wherein the means for transmitting transmits the electronic mail of the new mail notification by the push method protocol when the received electronic mail is an electronic mail which a file of a prescribed type is attached as an attached file.

Claim 13 (Original) The mail server according to claim 12, wherein the file of the prescribed type is an image file or a file in a format converted into character data from the image file.

Claim 14 (Original) The mail server according to claim 11, wherein the push method protocol is a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP).

Claim 15 (Original) The mail server according to claim 1, wherein the means for transmitting notifies an amount of data of the received electronic mail by electronic mail of a new mail notification.

Claims 16-26 (Cancelled).